

(b) rotating the pocketed feeder to accept comminuted cellulosic fibrous material from the inlet and to carry the material past the shear edge to the outlet;

(c) discharging the comminuted cellulosic fibrous material from the pocketed rotor through the outlet;

(d) when the shear edge is worn to approximately the point that excess leakage occurs or is substantially imminent, replacing the shear edge with a new shear edge while the practice of steps (a)-(c) is interrupted by removing the fasteners, removing the entire shear edge which was held on by the fasteners, replacing the entire shear edge, and holding the replaced shear edge in place with the fasteners; [and]

(e) repeating steps (a) through [(d)] (c);

(f) readily removing the protective baffle prior to detaching and replacing the shear plate; and

(g) after replacing the shear plate, reinstalling a protective baffle.

10-17. (Twice Amended) A star feeder assembly associated with a comminuted cellulosic material treatment vessel, comprising:

a star assembly comprising: a generally cylindrical housing having an interior and an inlet and outlet cooperating with the interior; a pocketed rotor mounted in said interior and rotatable in a direction of rotation with respect to said housing so that each pocket thereof, during rotation, moves from a position in communication with said inlet to a position in communication with said outlet, in a direction of rotation thereof; said rotor and housing interior having a clearance therebetween; a shear edge disposed adjacent said clearance in the downstreammost portion of said inlet, in said direction of rotation; and said shear edge mounted so that it is readily replaceable; [and]